Losses of Indian rare earths limited

569. SHRI THOMAS KUTHIRAVATTOM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the total accumulated loss of Indian Rare Earths Limited for the last three financial years viz. 1984-85, 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(b) what are the reasons thereor; and

(c) what remedial steps Government contemplate to take to run the company as a result-oriented and profit-earning units?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC ENERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Indian Rare Earths Limited has been making profit continuously for over two decades up to the year 1985-86. Details of profit/loss made in the last three years are given below:

1984-85	: Rs. 4.96 crore net profit
1985-86	: Rs. 6.38 crore net profit
1986-87	: Rs. 5.73 crore net loss.

(b) Orissa Sands Complex—a Rs. 136 crore project of IRE—started commercial production on 1 10.1986 and has not been able to attain optimum level of production due to various technical reasons.

(c) The company has been a result-oriented and profit earning unit upto the time of the commissioning of Orissa Sands Complex. Efforts are being made to attain the desired level of production at OSCOM by equipping the plant with certain additional facilities and modificatons. Several diversification programmes for production of value added products are under way in the company.

Cases pending in Andhra Pradesh

570. SHRI GOPALA RAO RAO: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases pending in Andhra Pradesh High Court as on 30th October, 1987 and the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to clear those cases expeditiously; and

(c) the number of cases which are pending for more than 3 years, more than 5 years and more than 10 years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H. R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As per the information furnished by the Registry of the Andhra Pradesh High Court, 86137 cases were pending before the Court as on 30.6.1987. The pendency is due to several complex factors and increase in fresh institution of cases.

(b) Steps taken by the Government to reduce the pendency of cases have been indicated in the attached Statement. (*See* below)

(c) As per informaion furnished by the Registry of the Andhra Pradesh High Court, the number of cases pending as on 30.6.1987 for more than three, five and ten years was 24072, 8444 and 69, respectively.